

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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CLAUDIA QUINBY,

Plaintiff,

-against-

WESTLB AG,

Defendant.  
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:  
: 04 Civ. 7406 (WHP) (HBP)

: OPINION  
: AND ORDER

PITMAN, United States Magistrate Judge:

On September 5, 2006, I issued an Opinion and Order in this matter directing that a portion the cost of the production of defendant's electronic documents be shifted to plaintiff; familiarity with my September 5 Opinion is assumed. Specifically, I concluded that plaintiff should bear "30% of the costs of restoring and searching backup tapes associated with producing [Miguel] Barron's e-mails." Quinby v. WestLB AG, 04 Civ. 7406 (WHP) (HBP), 2006 WL 2597900 at \*17 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 5, 2006), and directed the parties to make supplemental submissions to enable me to quantify this amount.

Defendant subsequently submitted an affidavit from Jean Colehour, sworn to September 18, 2006, stating that Kroll (the vendor retained by defendant to restore its back-up tapes) restored fourteen (14) back-up tapes in order to recover Barron's e-mails and that the total cost of restoring these back-up tapes

was \$9,187.50. Plaintiff submitted a letter and exhibits in response contending, for the reasons explained below, that plaintiff's appropriate share of this expense is \$448.00 (Letter of Carmelyn P. Malalis, Esq., dated October 3, 2006). Defendant has not made any submission in reply.

Although plaintiff does not take issue with defendant's assertion that defendant expended \$9,187.50 to restore the back-up tapes on which Barron's e-mails were stored, she notes that these tapes also contained the e-mails of other custodians whose e-mails were ordered produced and the tapes would, therefore, have had to have been restored in any event. Specifically, seven (7) of the back-up tapes contained the e-mails of seven (7) other custodians; the remaining seven (7) tapes contained the e-mails of four (4) other custodians. Accordingly, plaintiff argues that she should be responsible for only 30% of the share of the expenses allocable to restoring Barron's e-mails.

I find plaintiff's arguments convincing. Even if Barron's e-mails had not been ordered produced, the back-up tapes would have had to have been restored. It is, therefore, unfair to shift a percentage of the entire cost of restoration to plaintiff.

I calculate the amount of plaintiff's share as follows:

$\$9,187.50 \div 7 = \$4,593.75$	(cost of restoring seven (7) back-up tapes)
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$$\$4,593.75 \div 8 = \$574.22$$

(share of the cost of restoring the seven (7) back-up tapes containing the e-mails of eight (8) custodians allocable to restoring Barron's e-mails)

$$\$4,593.75 \div 5 = \$918.75$$

(share of the cost of restoring the seven (7) back-up tapes containing the e-mails of five (5) custodians allocable to restoring Barron's e-mails)

$$\$574.22 + \$918.75 = \$1,492.97$$

(total cost allocable to restoring Barron's e-mails)

$$\$1,492.27 \times 0.3 = \$447.89$$

(30% of the cost of restoring Barron's e-mails, as directed in my September 5, 2006 Order)

Accordingly, no later than ten (10) days from the date of this Order, plaintiff is directed to remit to defendant the sum of \$447.89.

Dated: New York, New York  
January 3, 2007

SO ORDERED

  
HENRY PITMAN  
United States Magistrate Judge

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